AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A suspension assembly comprising:
a slider body having a trailing edge face;
a bond pad positioned on the trailing edge;
a conductive trace connected to the bond pad to form an electrical connection;
a heating element including a low resistivity portion and a high resistivity portion, the high resistivity portion positioned proximate the electrical connection; and
an insulating component positioned between the conductive trace and the heating element proximate the electrical connection.

2. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the high resistivity portion has a smaller thickness than the low resistivity portion.

3. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the high resistivity portion includes an undulating pattern positioned proximate the bond pad.

4. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein four bond pads are positioned on the trailing edge face and four conductive traces are connected to the four bond pads to form electrical connections and wherein the high resistivity portion is positioned proximate each of the electrical connections.

5. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the high resistivity portion is positioned in a plane generally perpendicular to the trailing edge face.

6. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the high resistivity portion is positioned in a plane generally parallel to the trailing edge face.

7. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the conductive trace is positioned in a flex circuit.

8. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 7 wherein the conductive trace includes a trace bond pad and a bonding component is positioned on the trace bond pad, the bonding component providing an electrical conduit between the bond pad and the trace bond pad.

9. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 7 wherein the heating element is positioned in the flex circuit.

10. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 9 and further comprising a gimbal assembly attached to the slider.

11. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the heating element is positioned in a flex circuit.

12. (original) The suspension assembly of claim 1 wherein the heating element is adapted to provide heat to a bonding component, the bonding component providing an electrical conduit between the bond pad and the conductive trace.

13. (previously presented) A suspension assembly comprising:

a suspension;

a slider body supported by the suspension and having a trailing edge face and at least one bond pad positioned on the trailing edge face; and

means for providing an electrical connection between a conductive trace and the at least one bond pad using a heating element positioned on the suspension, the heating element having a high resistivity portion and a low resistivity portion.

14. (Previously Presented) The suspension assembly of claim 13 and further comprising means for insulating the conductive trace and the heating element.

15. (Previously Presented) The suspension assembly of claim 13 wherein the high resistivity portion has a smaller thickness than the low resistivity portion.

16. (Previously Presented) The suspension assembly of claim 13 wherein the high resistivity portion includes an undulating pattern.

17. (Previously Presented) The suspension assembly of claim 13 wherein the high resistivity portion is positioned in a plane generally perpendicular to the trailing edge face.

18. (Previously Presented) The suspension assembly of claim 13 wherein the high resistivity portion is positioned in a plane generally parallel to the trailing edge face.

19. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 13 wherein the means for providing are positioned on a flex circuit.

20. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 13 and further comprising means for heating a bonding component to provide an electrical conduit between the conductive trace and the at least one bond pad.

21. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 20 wherein the bonding component is positioned on a portion of the conductive trace.

22-27 Cancelled

28. (Currently Amended) A suspension interconnect, comprising:

a suspension;

a conductive element positioned on the suspension;

a heating element positioned on the suspension and including a low resistivity portion and a high resistivity portion; and

an insulating component positioned between the conductive element and the heating element such that the conductive element and the heating element are electrically isolated.

29. (Previously Presented) The suspension interconnect of claim 28 wherein the high resistivity portion has a smaller thickness than the low resistivity portion.

30. (Previously Presented) The suspension interconnect of claim 28 wherein the high resistivity portion includes an undulating pattern.

31. (Previously Presented) The suspension interconnect of claim 28 wherein at least two bond pads are electrically interconnected to at least two conductive elements.

32. (Previously Presented) The suspension interconnect of claim 28 and further comprising a flex circuit including the heating element.

33. (Previously Presented) The suspension interconnect of claim 28 wherein the heating element is adapted to provide heat to a bonding component, wherein the bonding component provides an electrical conduit.